



NORTH DAKOTA

Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources (CI/KR) Ticker



The North Dakota Open Source (CI/KR) Ticker a product of the North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center (NDSLIC). It provides open source news articles and information on terrorism, crime, and potential destructive or damaging acts of nature or unintentional acts. Articles are placed in the (CI/KR) Ticker to provide situational awareness for local law enforcement, first responders, government officials, and private/public infrastructure owners.

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NORTH DAKOTA

(North Dakota) Xcel presents \$5.3M plan to improve ND power reliability. Xcel Energy Inc., unveiled a \$5.3 million plan for improving reliability to its North Dakota customers June 22, which will include removing 29,000 feet of unjacketed cable, installing 24 additional IntelliTeam switches and related equipment, and replacing wood cross-arms with fiberglass, among other improvements. The plan was created following a series of power outages during the spring of 2015 in Fargo. http://www.jamestownsun.com/news/state/4062768-xcel-presents-53m-plan-improve-nd-power-reliability

(North Dakota) Health officials identify harmful algae at Patterson Lake.

North Dakota's Health Department has issued a blue-green algae warning for Patterson Lake near Dickinson. The agency says algae blooms exposure from ingesting affected water can cause illness in people and animals, and can result in death. http://bismarcktribune.com/news/state-and-regional/health-officials-identify-harmful-algae-at-patterson-lake/article 70e0c29d-458a-5c9f-9a41-4f25a1677b22.html

(North Dakota) Storm produces high winds, large hail in western part of state. Hail more than 3 inches in diameter was reported in the Killdeer area to the National Weather Service's Bismarck office in the early evening hours. Damage to trailers and homes in the area due to hail and high wind speeds were also reported. http://bismarcktribune.com/news/local/bismarck/storm-produces-high-winds-large-hail-in-western-part-of/article_a6ca3423-5cfc-56cb-aae3-08c3ed149d5c.html

REGIONAL

(Minnesota) Thousands remain without power after Minnesota storms. Xcel Energy crews worked July 6 to restore power to 38,000 customers in southern Minnesota who remained without service following severe storms that moved through the State July 5 and knocked out power to 130,000 customers. http://www.startribune.com/powerful-summer-storm-leaves-damage-behind/385668911/

(Montana) Observation Fire evacuation warning lifted. Crews reached 30 percent containment July 6 of the 1,417-acre Observation Fire burning near Hamilton, Montana. Authorities lifted an evacuation warning for residences in Ravalli County. http://helenair.com/news/state-and-regional/observation-fire-evacuation-warning-lifted/article/ 3172c97e-6315-5c22-b61d-827419be75b9.html

(South Dakota) Officials: Crow Peak Fire is 100 percent contained. Crews reached full containment July 4 of the Crow Peak Fire that reached over 2,733 acres in the Black Hills National Forest in South Dakota.

http://www.keloland.com/news/article/news/officials-crow-peak-fire-is-100-percent-contained

(South Dakota) Nearly 70 people were evacuated from residences, a library, and a YMCA in Pierre after a city street crew ruptured an underground gas line.

Nearly 70 people were evacuated from residences, a library, and a YMCA of the USA facility in Pierre, South Dakota, for about 2 hours June 27 while crews worked to repair a ruptured underground gas line.

http://www.dailyjournal.net/view/story/1361842abf4d415a8876f98e52b02482/SD--Pierre-Gas-Leak

NATIONAL

(Texas) Police: 5 officers dead, 7 hurt in Dallas protest shooting. The chief of the Dallas Police Department announced July 8 that at least three gunman shot and killed five police officers and wounded seven others during a protest in Dallas July 7 over fatal police shootings in other States. One suspect was killed in an exchange with police and authorities were continuing to investigate the incident while searching for other suspects involved in the shootings.

http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/breakingnews/police-5-officers-dead-7-hurt-in-dallas-protest-shooting/ar-BBu5aky?li=BBnb7Kz

(National) Raw dough's a raw deal and could make you sick. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition warned consumers June 29 against eating raw dough and batter after Federal testing confirmed that dozens of people across the country were sickened by a strain of Shiga toxin-producing E.coli O121 after consuming or handling raw dough made

with General Mills, Inc., unbleached, all-purpose, and self-rising flours. General Mills recalled 10 million pounds of its flour products sold under 3 brand names due to the bacterial contamination.

http://www.fda.gov/ForConsumers/ConsumerUpdates/ucm508450.htm

INTERNATIONAL

(International) Symantec products affected by multiple "as bad as it gets" vulnerabilities. A security researcher from Google's Project Zero initiative discovered several vulnerabilities in Symantec's security products including buffer overflow flaws, memory corruption flaws, and a high-severity flaw that does not require user interaction, affects default configuration, and allows the software to run on the highest privilege levels possible due to a vulnerable code in ASPack. Attackers could exploit the vulnerabilities by sending an email with a malicious file or embed a malicious link inside the email, among other methods. http://news.softpedia.com/news/symantec-products-affected-by-multiple-as-bad-as-it-gets-vulnerabilities-505786.shtml

(International) Leaders' statement on a North American climate, clean energy, and environment partnership. The Canadian prime minister, U.S. President, and president of Mexico announced June 29 that they share a commitment to a competitive, low-carbon, and sustainable North American economy and society, and strive to achieve 50 percent clean power generation by 2025. The plan to achieve the goal of clean power will be accomplished through collaborating on cross-border transmission projects, enhancing trilateral collaboration on greening of government initiatives, and strengthening and aligning efficiency standards across all three countries, among a range of other initiatives.

https://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2016/06/29/leaders-statement-north-american-climate-clean-energy-and-environment

(International) UAE and Bahrain join Bahamas in issuing travel warnings to citizens visiting the US. This comes on the back of the violent protests that have erupted in the US after a series of police shootings of black Americans. Five policemen were killed when a sniper opened fire at a peaceful protest in Dallas against the police shootings of two black Americans - Philando Castile in Falcon Heights, Minnesota and Alton Sterling in Louisiana Baton Rouge.

http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/uae-bahrain-join-bahamas-issuing-travel-advisory-citizens-visiting-us-

<u>1569894?utm source=yahoo&utm medium=referral&utm campaign=rss&utm content=/rss/yahoous/news&yptr=yahoo</u>

BANKING AND FINANCE INDUSTRY

(National) Ex-Wall Streeter pleads guilty in fraud case. A former executive at Park Hill Group pleaded guilty July 6 to Federal charges after he bilked approximately \$38.5 million from more than 10 individuals and entities in a Ponzilike scheme where he convinced family and friends to invest in a non-existent private equity firm from July 2015 – March 2016 and used the money for personal option trades, to repay money he had previously diverted from the Park Hill Group, and for personal use, among other illicit purposes. Officials stated the scheme attempted to bilk investors out of nearly \$150 million. http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/2016/07/06/ex-wall-streeter-expected-plead-guilty-fraud-case/86747794/

(Colorado; Wyoming) 6 arrested in fast-food credit card scheme in northern Colorado. Six New York residents were arrested and indicted June 15 for allegedly using fraudulent credit cards to purchase more than \$10,000 worth of gift cards at McDonald's Corp., restaurants and other fast-food chain restaurants in Wyoming and Colorado. Authorities confiscated over 1,000 gift cards, a credit card reader, and a machine used for printing credit cards during the groups' arrest. http://www.coloradoan.com/story/news/local/colorado/86514832/

CHEMICAL AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SECTOR

(Nebraska) EPA settlement with owner of fertilizer plant in Culbertson, Neb., to resolve Risk Management Program issues. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced June 24 that the owner of Kugler Oil Company agreed to pay a \$101,808 civil penalty to settle Federal Risk Management Program (RMP) violations after an August 2014 inspection at the company's Culbertson, Nebraska

Dealer Fertilizer and Retail Plant revealed that the company was using or storing approximately 620,000 pounds of anhydrous ammonia without implementing a proper RMP. As part of the settlement, the company must develop and implement a RMP for the facility that includes a management system, a hazard assessment, and a prevention program, among other requirements, and provide documentation of these programs to the EPA by January 2017.

https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-settlement-owner-fertilizer-plant-culbertson-neb-resolve-risk-management-program

COMMERCIAL FACILITIES

(National) Wendy's says credit, debit card breach affected over a thousand U.S. locations. Wendy's restaurant released an updated database July 7 which revealed that addition restaurant locations may have been affected by a 2015 security breach after the company discovered malware on the company's point-of-sale (PoS) systems May 2016. Company officials allegedly believe more than 1,000 nationwide locations were affected.

http://www.upi.com/Business News/2016/07/07/Wendys-says-credit-debit-card-breach-affected-over-a-thousand-US-locations/5831467931159/

COMMUNICATIONS SECTOR

(Alaska) GCI to pay \$2.4 million in FCC settlement over 911 outages. Alaska telecommunications provider General Communication Inc. (GCI) agreed July 6 to a \$2.4 million settlement with the Federal Communications Commission regarding more than five 9-1-1 phone outages between 2008 and 2015 that limited more than 1,000 calls from reaching emergency services. As part of the settlement, GCI has agreed to strengthen its procedures for providing 9-1-1 service and to adapt robust compliance measures. http://www.adn.com/alaska-news/2016/07/06/gci-to-pay-2-4-million-in-fcc-settlement-over-911-outages-4/

CRITICAL MANUFACTURING

(International) Zero-days in BMW web portal let hackers tamper with customer cars. A security researcher from Vulnerability Lab reported July 7 that BMW's ConnectDrive Web portal was plagued with two zero-day vulnerabilities including a cross-site scripting (XSS) flaw and a session vulnerability that can allow an attacker to bypass Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) session validation and use another car's VIN to access and edit another user's car settings. BMW has yet to patch the flaws. http://news.softpedia.com/news/zero-days-in-bmw-web-portallet-hackers-tamper-with-customer-cars-506103.shtml

(International) CPSC recalling more than 500,000 hoverboards because of fire hazards. The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission is recalling more than 500,000 hoverboards sold from eight manufacturers in China and made with lithium-ion battery packs July 6 after almost 100 incidences revealed the battery packs overheated, caught fire, and exploded. The hoverboards were primarily sold via online stores from June 2015 – May 2016. http://abcnews.go.com/News/cpsc-recalling-500000-hoverboards-due-fire-

hazards/story?id=40359491

(National) Polaris recalls Ranger ROVs due to fire hazard. Polaris Industries Inc., issued a recall June 28 for 43,000 of its model years 2015 – 2016 Polaris Ranger 570 recreational off-highway vehicles (ROVs) due to a fire hazard where the vehicles can overheat during heavy engine loading, slow-speed intermittent use, or high outdoor temperatures and catch fire. The recall was initiated after the company received seven reports of the vehicles catching fire.

http://www.cpsc.gov/en/Recalls/Recall-Alerts/2016/Polaris-Recalls-Ranger-ROVs/

DEFENSE/INDUSTRY BASE SECTOR

Nothing Significant to Report

EMERGENCY SERVICES

(West Virginia) West Virginia flooding leaves at least 24 dead. The U.S. President declared West Virginia a disaster area June 25 after the governor declared states of emergency in 44 counties June 23 following severe flooding that led to 24 deaths, the loss of power to more than 32,000 customers, and severe damage to homes and infrastructure across the State. Roads were swept away and hundreds of rescue personnel responded to emergency calls.

http://www.cnn.com/2016/06/25/us/west-virginia-flooding-deaths/

(National) Cities Exploring 911 Texting Systems In Response To Active Shooter Situations. The AP reports that in the wake of active-shooter and hostage situations like that in Orlando, "police departments are exploring technology that would allow dispatchers to receive texts, photos and videos in real time." The Federal Communications Commission has said that "out of more than 6,000 dispatch centers nationwide, a little more than 650 can accept text messages, with more than 150 making the text-to-911 upgrade this year." http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/dangerous-talk-cities-explore-911-texting-40340363

(Texas) Houston Police To Try GPS Police Chase Technology. The Houston Chronicle reports that the Houston Police Department hopes to reduce fatalities from police chases by trying a new technology that allows officers to shoot a sticky GPS tracker onto a fleeing vehicle. The Chronicle explains that "the north and south divisions will each have four vehicles equipped with the StarChase device, which costs about \$5,000 per unit."

http://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/HPD-to-try-GPS-tracker-for-police-chases-8337053.php

ENERGY

(Colorado) EPA announces stabilization work resuming at Gold King Mine. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced July 8 that contractors will begin work July 9 at the Gold King Mine in Colorado to complete work started during the fall of 2015 which will include stabilizing the mine adit and portal, continuing to operate the interim water treatment plant (IWTP) at Gladstone, and

removing solids from retention ponds and filter bags, among other planned activities. https://www.epa.gov/newsreleases/epa-announces-stabilization-work-resuming-gold-king-mine

(California) PG&E closes gas storage field in delta after finding leaks. Pacific Gas and Electric Co., temporarily shut down its McDonald Island facility in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta July 7, following the discovery of small leaks of flammable fuel. The company is investigating the source of the leaks and closed the facility out of an abundance of caution.

http://www.sfgate.com/business/article/PG-E-closes-gas-storage-field-in-Delta-after-8346829.php

(International) SEC adopts rule on oil, mining payments to foreign governments.

The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission announced that it approved a rule June 27 requiring oil, gas, and mining companies to disclose payments made to foreign governments beginning in 2018. The rule requires companies to publicly release how much they pay governments in taxes, royalties, and other types of fees for exploration, extraction, and other activities.

http://www.reuters.com/article/us-sec-extraction-idUSKCN0ZD2V8

FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

(National) Sunflower kernel recall impacts Nature Valley Protein Chewy Bars & Nature Valley Simple Nut Bars. General Mills, Inc., issued a voluntary recall June 24 for its Nature Valley Protein Chewy Bars products and Nature Valley Simple Nut Bars products sold in four variations due to potential Listeria monocytogenes contamination after the company's sunflower kernel supplier, SunOpta, Inc., recalled the seeds it provided the firm due to Listeria. There have been no confirmed reports of illnesses and the products were distributed to retail establishments nationwide. http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm508639.htm

GOVERNMENT SECTOR (INCLUDING SCHOOLS AND UNIVERSITIES)

(National) IRS kills electronic filing PIN feature due to repeated attacks. The U.S. Internal Revenue Service announced the week of June 20 that it will retire its Electronic Filing (E-File) Personal Identification Numbers (PINs) Web application, which was used for obtaining PINs that taxpayers could use to file tax returns electronically due to questionable activity after hackers used stolen taxpayer information to obtain 101,000 E-file PINs through its Web site on several occasions. http://www.networkworld.com/article/3088671/irs-kills-electronic-filing-pin-feature-due-to-repeated-attacks.html

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

(International) New "Patchwork" cyber-espionage group uses copy-pasted malware for its attacks. Security researchers from Cymmetria reported that a new cyber-espionage group dubbed, Patchwork Advanced Persistent Threat (APT) was seen infecting at least 2,500 machines since December 2015 and can infect an underlying operating system (OS) with their malware using spear-phishing emails that contain PowerPoint files as attachments, which are embedded with the Sandworm exploit. The cyber criminals use an assortment of copy-pasted code from known malware such as PowerSploit, Meterpreter, Autolt, and UACME. http://news.softpedia.com/news/new-patchwork-cyber-espionage-group-uses-copy-pasted-malware-for-its-attacks-506101.shtml

(International) D-Link vulnerability affects over 120 products, 400,000 devices.

Security researchers from Senrio discovered that over 120 other D-Link products were plagued with the same remote-code execution (RCE) vulnerability found in the D-Link DCS-930L Network Cloud Cameras that could allow attackers to execute arbitrary code on the devices. Researchers reported that an alleged 400,000 D-Link products could be affected.

http://news.softpedia.com/news/d-link-vulnerability-affects-over-120-products-400-000-devices-506104.shtml

(International) Over 6,000 Redis database servers ready for taking. Security researchers from Risk Based Security released a report detailing that 6,338 Redis servers were compromised after performing a non-intrusive scan using Shodan which revealed that the hacked servers featured the "crackit" Secure Socket Shell (SSH) key and were attached to an email address that was previously seen in other incidences. Researchers recommended that Webmasters update their Redis database to the recent version and activate "protected mode" feature. http://news.softpedia.com/news/over-6-000-redis-database-servers-ready-for-the-taking-506056.shtml

(International) Information-collecting Android keyboard tops 50 million installs.

Security researchers from Pentest Limited discovered a third-party keyboard application for Android dubbed "Flash Keyboard" was allegedly seen conducting malicious activity by communication with servers in several countries and sending personal data including the device manufacturer and model number, International Mobile Station Equipment Identity (IEMI), Android version, user email address, mobile networks, and GPS co-ordinates to a remote server. The application engages in deceptive behavior, which Google prohibits. http://www.securityweek.com/information-collecting-android-keyboard-tops-50-million-installs

(International) Free decrypter available for download for MIRCOP ransomware.

A security researcher created a decrypter tool that can recover files locked by the MIRCOP ransomware without paying the ransomware fee after an independent researcher and security researchers from Trend Micro revealed the presence of the new ransomware family at the end of June.

http://news.softpedia.com/news/free-decrypter-available-for-download-for-mircop-ransomware-505976.shtml

(International) Malware spread via Facebook makes 10,000 victims in 48 hours.

Security researchers from Kaspersky Lab reported that from June 24 – June 27, cyber criminals were using Facebook spam messages to distribute malware to user accounts and allegedly selling Facebook "likes" and "shares" via botnet of infected devices by informing users about mentions in comments and convincing them to access a link that would secretly download a trojan on the user's computer, as well as secretly install an extension in the user's Google Chrome Web browser. Facebook blocked the technique and Google removed the

extension from its Chrome Web Store.

http://news.softpedia.com/news/malware-spread-via-facebook-makes-10-000-victims-in-48-hours-505969.shtml

(International) Free decrypter available for Unlock92 ransomware. An independent security researcher created a decrypter tool for the ransomware, Unlock92 after security researchers from Malwarebytes discovered the new ransomware can encrypt victims' files with a symmetric and Advanced Encryption Standard encryption (AES) and generate a 64-character hexadecimal password for each target. http://news.softpedia.com/news/free-decrypter-available-for-unlock92-ransomware-505883.shtml

(International) 25,000-strong CCTV botnet used for crippling DDoS attacks.

Sucuri researchers discovered that a closed circuit television (CCTV) botnet comprised of 25,000 cameras worldwide was carrying out distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks against a jewelry store Web site and found that the compromised cameras were able to emulate normal behavior of popular browsers in order to make the botnet more difficult to identify and block. Researchers reported that the attackers could have hacked the devices via a recently disclosed remote code execution (RCE) vulnerability in CCTV-Digital Video Recorders (DVRs).

https://www.helpnetsecurity.com/2016/06/28/25000-strong-cctv-botnet/

(International) Massive 40 Million iCloud Accounts Hack Could Hold Apple Devices Hostage For Russian Ransomware. Some iPhone users, dating back to February this year, have discovered that their devices have been compromised, and are held hostage by Russian hackers. An iCloud account is broken into (with the help of leaked credentials), and the service's "Find My iPhone" feature. http://www.techworm.net/2016/07/40-million-icloud-accounts-hacked-hackers-hold-ios-devices-ransom.html

PUBLIC HEALTH

(lowa) Data potentially breached for 2,500+ patients at Planned Parenthood in **Dubuque.** Planned Parenthood of the Heartland announced July 5 that it notified 2,506 patients of a potential data breach after the patients' personal and medical

information may have been accessed by unauthorized parties during the April closure and sale of the Dubuque facility. The organization stated that it is conducting a comprehensive analysis of its processes.

http://www.kcrg.com/content/news/Data-breach-for-2500-patients-at-Planned-Parenthood-in-Dubuque-385593421.html

(National) FDA approves Epclusa for treatment of chronic hepatitis C virus infection. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved Epclusa June 28 to treat adult patients with chronic hepatitis C virus following extensive testing and evaluation which proved the drug's safety and effectiveness. http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm508915.htm

TRANSPORTATION

(California) 'Hoax' device prompts closure of downtown L.A. Metro station, disruption of 4 Metro lines. Officials closed the Seventh Street/Metro Center station in Los Angeles July 7 for nearly 3 hours after official found a suspicious unattended package in the station. The device was deemed a "hoax" and trains began their normal operations. http://ktla.com/2016/07/07/metro-center-station-closed-in-downtown-l-a-due-to-unattended-package/

(Florida) Sanford-bound Allegiant Air flight makes emergency landing in Jacksonville. Allegiant Air Flight 749 from South Bend International Airport traveling to Orlando-Sanford International Airport was forced to make an emergency landing in Jacksonville July 6 after an electrical odor filled the cabin and caused the plane to delay for more than 5 hours. http://www.wesh.com/news/sanfordbound-allegiant-airlines-flight-makes-emergency-landing-in-jacksonville/40385448

(Texas) Authorities: 3 train workers in Texas wreck presumed dead. Three crew members are presumed dead and another is injured after two BNSF Railway freight trains collided 25 miles northeast of Amarillo June 28, causing several cars to erupt in flames and prompting officials to evacuate nearby residents. In response to the head on crash BNSF officials pledged to adopt technology called positive train control (PTC) that uses GPS, wireless radio, and computers to

monitor train positions to automatically slow or stop trains in danger of colliding or derailing. http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/us/crews-fighting-blaze-at-train-collision-site-with-3-missing/ar-AAhJaBR

WATER AND DAMS

(North Carolina) 24,000 gallons of untreated wastewater spilled in Pitt County.

An equipment malfunction at the Fork Swamp Regional Pump Station in Greenville, North Carolina, resulted in a 24,000-gallon wastewater overflow, of which nearly 4,000 gallons spilled into the Fork Swamp Canal July 3. Crews treated the affected area near the pump station with hydrated lime.

http://www.wcti12.com/news/24000-gallons-of-untreated-wastewater-spilled-in-pitt-county/403558644

(Florida) Army Corps to reduce lake flows fueling Florida Algae Bloom. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District began reductions of water flow from Lake Okeechobee, targeting the Caloosahatchee Estuary and the St. Lucie Estuary, July 1 due to an increase of noxious algae blooms and other environmental damage that foul beaches on Florida's Atlantic coast.

http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/army-corps-reduce-lake-flows-fueling-florida-algae-40271392

NORTH DAKOTA HOMELAND SECURITY CONTACTS

To report a homeland security incident, please contact your local law enforcement agency or one of these agencies: North Dakota State and Local Intelligence Center: 866-885-8295(IN ND ONLY); Email: ndslic@nd.gov; Fax: 701-328-8175 State Radio: 800-472-2121; Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI): 701-328-5500; North Dakota Highway Patrol: 701-328-2455; US Attorney's Office Intel Analyst: 701-297-7400; Bismarck FBI: 701-223-4875; Fargo FBI: 701-232-7241.

To contribute to this summary or if you have questions or comments, please contact:

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